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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 12, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RAY LAHOOD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Cynthia L. Hale, Pastor, Ray of Hope Christian Church, Decatur, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all life. In the words of the Psalmist, "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your hands, the moon and the stars which You have set in place, what is man and woman that You are mindful of them? You made them a little lower than the heavenly beings. You made them ruler over the works of Your hands."

God, You have given each of the persons assembled in this place the ability and the authority to govern this great Nation of ours. You have positioned them to set policy for the provision and protection of the people. You have designated these men and women to make decisions for the continued liberty and justice for all.

Now, God, grant them wisdom. Give them the courage this day to govern with Your grace and for Your glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NETHERCUTT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. NETHERCUTT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND DR. CYNTHIA L. HALE, PASTOR, RAY OF HOPE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, DECATUR, GEORGIA

(Ms. MAJETTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MAJETTE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased this morning to welcome the Reverend Dr. Cynthia L. Hale, Senior Pastor of the Ray of Hope Christian Church in Decatur, Georgia. Pastor Hale is a 1979 graduate of Duke University's School of Divinity and she was ordained that same year. She has been the Pastor of the Ray of Hope Christian Church for 18 years. The church is known to all of us in my district affectionately as "The Ray."

Pastor Hale has been a good steward of the resources that God has entrusted to her. She has helped countless people be able to continue their lives and to grow in faith and strength. She has been a mentor and a friend to me over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly blessed, we are all truly blessed, to have her here with us this morning.

APPRECIATING ALL COMPANIES, BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC, THAT WANT TO DO BUSINESS IN THE UNITED STATES

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, in April it was reported that employers added 288,000 jobs to the payroll, including 21,000 in the manufacturing sector. Progress is being made. The outsourcing-insourcing debate then has waned a little bit.

But I want to highlight Richland County in Illinois, 16,000 people in the community of Olney, that has 8,000. They actively pursue and ask for international business to come. In fact they are home for companies from Germany, Austria, Japan, Belgium, Switzerland and the Netherlands. These international companies located in rural Illinois provide high wages and great benefits to their citizens.

We should be appreciative of all companies that create jobs, both U.S. companies and international companies, that want to do business in the United States.

TIMING OF RED CROSS CONCERNS

(Mr. CONYERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, reading the Wall Street Journal yesterday, which I read more than some suspect, I was told that the Red Cross had complained to Secretary of State Colin Powell about the prison abuses and torture and other embarrassments for months, which was a new revelation to me.

But today the Baltimore Sun says, and here it is, "Powell says Bush was informed of Red Cross concerns and that he had been fully informed in general terms about complaints made by

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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